

SECRET

Guatemalan Group
Meeting
Saturday, June 19, 1954

Present: Holland, Burrows, Jamison, Pearson, Woodward, Sanders, Herron, Wieland,
Atwood, Sparks, Ledy, Dreier, Bill Clark, Warren, Col. Clark, Raine

1. Guatemalan Revolution

(a) A review of the incoming messages resulted in the conclusion that the situation in Guatemala was confused. We could not tell what the revolutionary forces had accomplished nor was there a clear indication of the purpose of certain Guatemalan moves.

(b) During the meeting, Holland talked by phone with Pourifoy, who reported that his observations were limited solely to Guatemala City and that he did not know what was going on in other parts of the country. Within the city he said there was no disorder, no bombing, and that a plane had flown over the city firing several bursts in the air. Pourifoy asked that the Department announce that all Americans were safe.

2. Press Statement

(a) Holland emphasized that during this period we must be cool and objective and await receipt of information on the facts on what was occurring in the revolution.

(b) It was decided that a press release would be issued on what the Department knew of the situation to this point. The release would particularly emphasize that as far as we know, there was no evidence indicating that the revolution was other than an uprising of Guatemalans against their government.

(c) Woodward reported that he had called Wilcox to inform him about what Senators Hickenlooper and Wiley might say about the situation.

3. Guatemalan Request to the Security Council

During the meeting, Holland was called to discuss the Guatemalan Security Council move with Murphy and Key. At this meeting it was agreed that for the time being our position would be (a) an SC meeting would be called for 3 p.m. Monday (subsequently changed to Sunday afternoon), (b) Lodge was to consult with the other LA delegates today (especially Brazil and Colombia), and (c) at the outset our position in the SC would be to propose a referral of the matter to the OAS.

4. Inter-American Peace Committee

Dreier reported that Quintanilla, who is Chairman, proposed that a meeting of the Peace Committee be called for Monday.

5. Meeting of the OAS Concerning the Guatemalan Revolution

It was noted that under Article III of the Rio Treaty, in case of an armed attack, the OAS Council was to meet without delay. ~~Castro had not yet called~~ Holland regarding the possibility of an OAS Council meeting.

ARA:MBT:son:ives

SECRET

REVIEWED BY Spencer DATE 7/9/82

RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON (S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKING ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ REASON X
PLEASE DETACH